



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

Joint Executive Council for Veterans Organizations (JECVO) Update

5 February 2020

Update presented by

Commissioner Keith L. Jackson

Lieutenant Colonel, US Army (Ret)



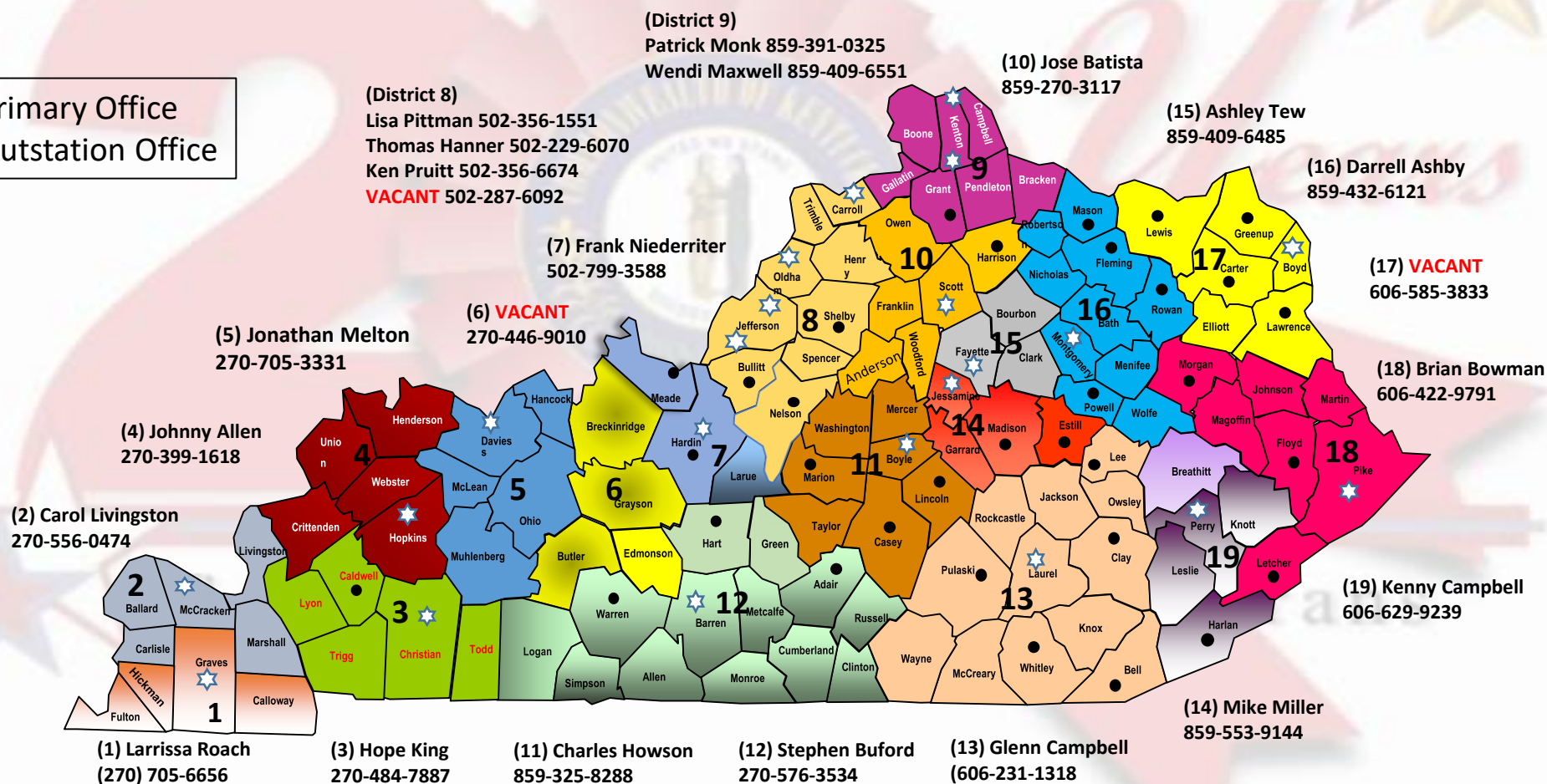
Agenda

- Veterans Benefits Branch
- State Veteran Centers
- State Veteran Cemeteries
- Homeless Veterans Program
- Women Veterans Program
- KyVETS Program
- Veterans Program Trust Fund
- Ky Vets \$1
- Executive Budget Recommendation for KDVA
- Legislative Update
- Major Events

Benefits Branch Field Offices

23 Field Representatives in 19 Districts

- ★ Primary Office
- Outstation Office



Revised 4 February 2020

- **Covington Field Office opened 22 January 2020 at the Kenton County Administration Building, 1840 Simon Kenton Way, Room 3008, Covington, KY.**
- **Harrodsburg Field Office moved to Danville National Guard Armory, 482 Stanford Ave, Danville, KY. Opening for business on 24 February 2020.**

Veteran Centers

As of 1 February 2020



**Thomson-Hood Veterans Center, Wilmore, KY
(Jessamine County)**

156/285 = 55% (+2% from last month)
Opened in 1991



**Western Kentucky Veterans Center, Hanson, KY
(Hopkins County)**

88/156 = 56% (-2% from last month)
Opened in 2002



**Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center, Hazard, KY
(Perry County)**

116/120 = 97% (+5% from last month)
Opened in 2013



**Radcliff Veterans Center, Radcliff KY
(Hardin County)**

74/120 = 62% (+7% from last month)
Opened in 2017

Veterans Cemeteries

As of 1 February 2020

KVCW, Hopkinsville, Christian County, KY



Opened March 1, 2004

Interments:

Veterans	3,344
Dependents	<u>1,240</u>
Total	4,584
Cremated	1,344

KVCC, Radcliff, Hardin County, KY



Opened June 1, 2007

Interments:

Veterans	5,425
Dependents	<u>1,354</u>
Total	6,780
Cremated	2,137

KVCN, Williamstown, Grant County, KY



Opened Aug 22, 2008

Interments:

Veterans	1,547
Dependents	<u>351</u>
Total	1,898
Cremated	739

Total: 14,474



KVCNE, Grayson, Greenup County, KY



Opened October 1, 2010

Interments:

Veterans	946
Dependents	<u>219</u>
Total	1,165
Cremated	354

KVCSE, Hyden, Leslie County, KY



Opened May 1, 2018

Interments:

Veterans	40
Dependents	<u>7</u>
Total	47
Cremated	13

Funeral Honors Stipend

**KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
BURIAL HONORS PROGRAM**
1111 Louisville Road, Suite B, Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone 1-502-564-9203 Fax: 1-502-564-9204
KDVA.AccountsPayable@ky.gov

VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION REQUEST FOR HONORS STIPEND

A Veterans Service Organization (VSO) shall submit this form when requesting stipend for performing military burial honors. The responsibility for proper completion and submission of this form rests with the VSO. Stipends will be paid at the rate indicated below in Part Two of this form, not to exceed \$60.00 for each ceremony.

- VSOs must verify the service of the veteran for whom the burial honors are being performed.
- Honors performed for veterans buried outside of the Commonwealth of Kentucky are not compensable.
- All stipend requests must be submitted to KDVA within 90 days of burial honors being performed.
- Submit stipend request to KDVA.AccountsPayable@ky.gov or via fax (502) 564-9240.

PART ONE: Deceased Veteran Information

Name of Veteran: _____
 Character of Discharge: _____
 Service Verified By DD-214 ☐ Yes ☐ No Dates of Military Service: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Rank: _____ Date Honors Performed: _____
 Location of Honors: City: _____ County: _____
 Branch of Service: ☐ U.S. Army ☐ U.S. Navy ☐ U.S. Air Force
☐ U.S. Marine Corps ☐ U.S. Coast Guard ☐ Other (specify) _____

PART TWO: VSO Performing Honors

VSO Post Name and #: _____
 Address: _____
 City/State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 State Vendor ID #: _____
 Point of Contact (please print): _____ Phone #: () _____
 Was deceased veteran a member of the post conducting honors? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Military Honors performed (check boxes that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Full Honors (Flag Folding/Presentation, Firing Detail (3 Firers Minimum), & Taps by Bugle):	\$60
<input type="checkbox"/> Rifle Team Firing Detail (3 Firers Minimum), & Taps by Live Bugler or Ceremonial Bugle:	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Flag Folding/Presentation, (No Firing Detail), & Taps by Live Bugler or Ceremonial Bugle:	\$35
<input type="checkbox"/> Flag Folding/Presentation, (No Firing Detail), & Taps by CD:	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Taps by Live Bugler or Ceremonial Bugle:	\$10
*Note: Taps by CD or Recording Device only is not compensable:	\$0

Signature of Post Honor
 Guard Commander or Adjutant: _____ Date: _____

PART THREE: Funeral Director Verification

Military honors performed in an acceptable manner. ☐ Yes ☐ No
 (If no, please provide comments on a separate piece of paper or call KDVA.)
 Name of Funeral Home: _____
 City: _____ Phone #: () _____
 Printed Name: _____
 Signature: _____ Date: _____

KDVA FORM (01-20) All Previous versions of this form are obsolete
 You can download the most recent version of this form at:
 KDVA Web site at <http://www.veterans.ky.gov>

- VSOs must verify the service of the veteran for whom the burial honors are being performed.
- Honors performed for veterans buried outside of the Commonwealth of Kentucky are not compensable.
- All stipend requests must be submitted to KDVA within 90 days of burial honors being performed.
- Stipend forms can now be sent to KDVA via email at KDVA.AccountsPayable@ky.gov.
- Ensure the VSO Post Name and Number is correct
- The VSO must be registered as a State Vendor and received a State Vendor ID Number. That Vendor ID Number will start with a **KY** or **KS**.
- VSO's must register for a State Vendor # at <https://finance.ky.gov/services/eprocurement/Pages/doingbusiness.aspx>.
- For additional information, contact the Burial Honors Program Coordinator at 502-782-5731 or e-mail a Alvin.Duncan@ky.gov.



Homeless Veterans Program

- Provides onetime direct financial assistance up to **\$350 (\$500 maximum)** to veterans facing eviction/utility cut off or to assist with temporary housing.
- Directs homeless veterans and their families to appropriate federal, state and local agencies to assist with transient housing, food, clothing, and employment assistance.
- Assists homeless veterans and those at risk, file for VA benefits, healthcare, and pensions as appropriate.
- KDVA is a major supporter of Operation Victory in Louisville. Three homes rehabilitated and provided to homeless veterans in the past two years.
 - The third Operation Victory home on Parthenia Ave is now complete. Dedication was held on 27 January 2020.
 - Operation Victory has found the homeless veteran for home number four, no date set yet for demolition.
 - Accepting applications from homeless veterans for the next 2 homes through Operation Victory.
- Homeless Veteran Program Coordinator is Eileen Ward,
(502) 782-5730, email eileen.ward@ky.gov



Homeless Veterans Program

Financial Assistance

FY 2019 (1 Jul 18-30 Jun 19)

Total assistance paid out	\$62,457.65
Avg. per veteran	\$243.98

Veterans assisted with Housing	131
Veterans assisted with Utilities	<u>125</u>
Total veterans assisted	256

FY 2020 (1 Jul 19 to Present)

Total assistance paid out	\$88,141.81
Avg. per veteran	\$332.61

Veterans assisted with housing	162
Veterans assisted with utilities	89
Veterans assisted with emergency shelter	<u>14</u>
Total veterans assisted	265



Women Veterans Program

- There are ~24,000 women veterans in Kentucky.
- Upcoming Events:
 - 19 Feb 20: Empowering Women Career Summit, Ft. Campbell, KY
 - 2 Mar 20: Women Veterans' Town Hall Meeting: Women's History Event, Morehead University
 - TBD: HB 318 AN ACT relating to Women Veterans' Day (12 Jun 2020)
- Please share any women veterans events with KDVA for us to post on our web page and social media.
- Women Veterans Program Coordinator Candace Bradley, cell 502-545-4193, email candace.bradley@ky.gov or women.veterans@ky.gov.



Employment Support Program

KyVets Veteran Services:

- Resume review and update
- Referral to employers
- Referral to other resources
- Education & Training
- HireKy website & App (<https://login.bfacmobile.com/m/hireky>)

Kentucky
Veteran
Employment,
Training, and
Support
(KyVets)

KyVets Employer Services:

- Education on why hiring veterans is good business
- Matching veterans skills and experience to employer needs
- Free advertisement of positions
- Top talent referrals
- HireKy website & App (<https://login.bfacmobile.com/m/hireky>)

Hire
KY

Please share any upcoming career and resource events with KyVETS Program Coordinator April Brown at (502) 782-5735, email april.brown@ky.gov or kyvets@ky.org.

Veterans Program Trust Fund



- The Veterans Program Trust Fund (VPTF) supports many veteran programs and projects throughout Kentucky but for which other funds are not available.
- The Fund is overseen by a Board of Directors appointed by the Governor. The board meets several times per year.
- The Fund receives a steady stream of revenue from a \$5 fee that is associated with the initial purchase and annual renewal of Veteran and Military license plates, as well as tax deductible contributions from private and corporate donors.

Last Meeting 9 January 2020

- 10 Grant Applicants
- 9 Grants Approved

Total Obligated \$157,000.00



Next Meeting 15 April 2020

- 8 Grant Application Slots
- Deadline for submitting grant applications is 14 February 2020



KY VET \$1

FY 2019 (1 Jul 18 to 30 June 19)

Total assistance paid out	\$ 62,457.65
Average per veteran	\$ 243.98
Veterans assisted with housing	131
Veterans assisted with utilities	<u>125</u>
Total veterans assisted	256

KY VET \$1

- Purpose – Support Kentucky Veterans' Trust Fund Programs:
 - Homelessness Veterans Program
 - Military Burial Honors Stipend Program
 - Indigent Veterans Burial Program
 - Other Grants

FY 2020 (1 Jul 19 to present)

Total assistance paid out	\$88,141.81
Avg. per veteran	\$332.61
Veterans assisted with housing	162
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- Donation jar at each VSO establishment
- Jar labeled “**KY VET \$1**”
- VSO members & visitors place \$1 in the jar
- VSO's turn the money in to the Kentucky Veterans' Trust Fund quarterly
- KDVA tracks the donations
- KDVA reports donation results at JECVO meetings



Governor's Recommended Budget for KDVA FY21-22

SOURCE OF FUNDS	Requested FY 2021	Requested FY 2022	Recommended FY 2021	Recommended FY 2022
GENERAL FUND				
Regular Appropriation	40,326,500	40,978,000	27,182,800	27,710,700
Total General Fund	40,326,500	40,978,000	27,182,800	27,710,700
RESTRICTED FUNDS				
Balance Forward	12,001,200	5,673,200	11,001,200	5,023,200
Current Receipts	62,615,900	64,161,800	62,615,900	64,161,800
Total Restricted Funds	74,617,100	69,835,000	73,617,100	69,185,000
TOTAL SOURCE OF FUNDS	114,943,600	110,813,000	100,799,900	96,895,700
EXPENDITURES BY CLASS				
Personnel Costs	87,266,700	88,745,500	74,158,000	75,203,100
Operating Expenses	14,493,600	14,411,000	13,548,600	13,536,800
Grants Loans Benefits	5,490,100	5,490,100	5,490,100	5,490,100
Debt Service			105,000	210,000
Capital Outlay	2,020,000	95,000	2,475,000	95,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	109,270,400	108,741,600	95,776,700	94,535,000
EXPENDITURES BY FUND SOURCE				
General Fund	40,326,500	40,978,000	27,182,800	27,710,700
Restricted Funds	68,943,900	67,763,600	68,593,900	66,824,300
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	109,270,400	108,741,600	95,776,700	94,535,000
EXPENDITURES BY UNIT				
Field Services and Cemeteries	11,281,400	11,697,700	7,688,500	7,792,400
Kentucky Veterans' Centers	97,989,000	97,043,900	88,088,200	86,742,600
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	109,270,400	108,741,600	95,776,700	94,535,000



Governor's Recommended Budget for KDVA FY21-22

- The Executive Budget recommendation sustains KDVA' operating budget to provide "Continued Existing Services."
- The Executive Budget includes additional General Fund in the amount of \$1,057,300 in fiscal year 2021 and \$1,185,700 in fiscal year 2022 to fund the cost increases of actuarially determined contribution, i.e., Pension Contributions, Healthcare Insurance, etc.
- The Executive Budget includes additional General Fund in the amount of \$102,400 in fiscal year 2021 and \$332,700 in fiscal year 2022 to fund cost increases associated with providing a 1% increment pay raise each year.
- The Executive Budget includes additional General Fund debt service in the amount of \$105,000 in fiscal year 2021 and \$210,000 in fiscal year 2022 to support new bonds for capital projects.
- The Executive Budget includes Restricted Funds in the amount of \$240,000 each fiscal year for the Nurse Student Loan Repayment program to assist in recruitment and retention of nursing staff at the Veterans' Centers.

Note: This is the Governor's recommended budget. There could be revisions before a final budget is passed.



KDVA Top Three 2020 Legislative Priorities

1. HB 24: Fund Bowling Green Veterans Center design and preconstruction. (Rep. M. Meredith)
Status: (H) Reported favorably by Appropriations & Revenue Committee, Passed House. (S) Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee on 1/30/20.
2. HB 36: Exempt Veteran Service Organizations from property tax. (Rep. M. Koch)
Status: Passed (H) VMAPP Committee, recommitted to (H) Appropriations & Revenue on 1/16/20.
3. HB 92 & HB 95: Exempt Military Retired Pay and Survivor Benefits from State Income Tax to make KY competitive with surrounding states. (HB 92 Rep. W. Thomas and HB 95 Rep. C. Massey)
Status HB 92: Posted (H) Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee on 1/27/20.
Status HB 95: (H) Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee on 1/7/20.

Serving Kentucky's Veterans



Other KDVA 2020 Legislative Initiatives

4. HB 17: Designate the Honor and Remember flag as the state's emblem of the service and sacrifice of the men and women of the US Armed Forces who have given their lives in the line of duty. (Rep. C. Massey)
Status: Passed House 01/24/20 (S) State & Local Government Committee on 1/29/20.
5. HB 175: Amend KRS 186.531 to waive fees for vehicle operator's licenses, identification cards, and other forms of travel identification for 50%-100% service-disabled veterans. (Rep. S. Sheldon)
Status: Posted (H) Transportation Committee on 1/10/20. KDVA met with Transportation Cabinet on 1/31/20.
6. HB 266: Amend KRS 159.075 Pre-enrollment and Preadmission of Military child to include transfers from Active Duty to Reserve Component and to waive Tuition Exception fees for military families living in temporary housing outside the school district. (Rep. M. Koch)
Status: Posted (H) Veterans, Military Affairs & Public Protection Committee on 1/27/20. Hearing at noon in Annex Room 169 on 2/5/20.
7. HB 276: Clarify eligibility for a special military license plate and provide for a special military license plate for spouses of veterans. (Rep S. Heavrin)
Status: Posted (H) Transportation Committee 1/22/20. KDVA met with Transportation Cabinet on 1/31/20. KDVA met with Rep. Heavrin on 2/4/20.



Other KDVA 2020 Legislative Initiatives

8. HB 277: Amend KRS 186.162 to allow veterans who are paid at the 100 percent rate for service-connected disabilities by the USDVA to purchase disabled veteran license plates with no initial fee or renewal fee. (Rep S. Heavrin)
Status: Posted (H) Transportation Committee 1/22/20. KDVA met with Transportation Cabinet on 1/31/20. KDVA met with Rep. Heavrin on 2/4/20.
9. HB 318: Creates a new section of KRS Chapter 2 to designate June 12 as Women Veterans' Day in the Commonwealth. (Rep. P. Minter)
Status: Posted (H) State Government Committee on 2/4/20. KDVA met with Reps. Miller and Minter on 2/4/20.
10. HB 335: Amend KRS 42.0146 to allow certification as a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Verification and Evaluation to meet the criteria of veteran eligibility, ownership, and control. (Rep. K. Bratcher)
Status: Posted (H) Small Business & Information Technology on 2/3/20.
11. HB 352: Relating to appropriations and revenue measures providing financing and conditions for the operations, maintenance, support, and functioning of the government of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and its various officers, cabinets, departments, boards, commissions, institutions, subdivisions, agencies, and other state-supported activities.
Status: (H) Appropriations & Revenue Committee on 1/29/20. KDVA met with OSBD on 1/31/20 and 2/4/20.



Other KDVA 2020 Legislative Initiatives

12. TBD: Amend KRS 132.810 to expand the homestead exemption in the Constitution to include surviving un-remarried spouses of totally disabled veterans of the United States Armed Forces.
Status: No Sponsor Yet
13. TBD: Allow certification as a Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) by the US Department of Veterans Affairs (USDVA) for verification and evaluation who meet the criteria of veteran eligibility, ownership, and control.
Status: Sponsor pending.
14. TDB: Amend KRS 40.317 to remove requirement for KDVA to employ no fewer than five Veteran Benefits Regional Administrators.
Status: Sponsor pending.
15. TBD: Amend KRS 40.325 to include authorization for Personal Services Contracts to extend to Nurse Aids.
Status: Sponsor pending.
16. TBD: Amend KRS 40A.690 to include authorization for Personal Services Contracts to extend to Nurse Aids.
Status: Sponsor pending.



Major Events

April - July 2020

2020 United States Census

Statewide

May 2020

Ribbon-cutting Ceremony for Kentucky Gold Star Families Memorial Monument

Capitol, Frankfort, KY

June 12-13, 2020

Veterans Engagement Action Center (VEAC)

One-stop shop for Veteran Benefits, Counseling, and Services

Lexington Christian Academy

450 W. Reynolds Road, Lexington, KY



Questions

Contact us at



www.veterans.ky.gov



Kentucky Department of Veteran Affairs



@kyveterans



kyveteransaffairs



(502) 564-9203

For an electronic copy of this presentation go to the KDVA website at
<https://veterans.ky.gov/otherprograms/Pages/JECVO.aspx>.